

LIVE STOCK AT THE STATE FAIR.**A Report on the Cattle, Swine and Sheep Shown at the North Carolina State Fair, Raleigh, Oct. 17-22, 1904.**

Messrs Editors: At the State Fair last week we saw great throngs of people there to see the various sights and the evidences of the development of our State along industrial lines. Among the curiosities to a majority of the people at the Fair, were the registered live stock on exhibition. We say these registered animals are curiosities to some of the people, because when we examine the records of the State on registered live stock, we find only forty-eight of the ninety-seven counties having registered cattle, thirty-four having registered swine, and only twenty having registered sheep.

The live stock exhibited at the Fair this year, excepting the cattle, was equal to that of last year, but not excelling it. Many of the animals on exhibition this Fair were exhibited here in 1903. Among the best live stock exhibited were the Hereford beef cattle, Berkshire hogs and Merino sheep.

HERTFORD CATTLE.

The best and only Hereford cattle on entry were exhibited by Mr. W. D. Upchurch, of Cary, N. C. There were only three of these cattle, one bull and two heifers. The white faces, white around ears, and bordering neck, and white underline and light red body, are the characteristic markings. The bull, known as *Monto*, ranked first, and took first prize. He was sired by Beau Roland and bred by Gilbert Bros., of Kentucky. He is now eighteen months old, and weighs twelve hundred pounds. This animal has a body almost representing a rectangle, on four short, finely-developed legs. He has a broad forehead, short head, good, open nose, ears medium size and neat, horns of a wax color standing almost straight from the sides of the head. His neck is of a good length and well padded with muscle. His back is long and broad from shoulders to crops. His hips and thighs are well and evenly filled out down to the hocks. His ribs are well sprung giving room for a good chest and fine attachment for flesh on regions of the back. His legs are short and stout. His hair, eyes and general appearance show him to be an animal of good health and constitution.

The two heifers showed their blood well by characteristic markings and more so by their superiority over other cattle around. Both of these were a little inferior in quality as compared with bull, but they were both good animals. One took first prize and the other second, as best heifers of their age and class at the Fair. These cattle are raised for their quantity and quality of beef. They are quicker maturing and are as easily raised as our scrub cows.

BERKSHIRE HOGS.

The swine as compared with cattle were better represented. There were several breeds of hogs exhibited,

viz., Duroc Jersey, Poland China, White Chester and Berkshire. The Berkshire were in the lead. Mr. J. D. Whitaker, of Raleigh, N. C., exhibited the largest number and some of the best ones. Lucindia Bacon II. heading the list exhibited by Mr. Whitaker, took first prize of herd. She was bred by E. M. Gillett, sired by Bacon Lee, bred by N. H. Gentry. Her dam was Lucindia III., bred by E. W. Gillet. This is a black sow, having a long, broad back, and especially well developed hind quarters. Her limbs are of a good size, sufficient to carry her weight with ease. She stands well on her feet, showing no signs of weakness in them. She has a fine head with a well crooked nose for her breed. Julia A. Fricker, another sow exhibited by Mr. Whitaker, was imported from Burton Mere, Wilts, England. She was farrowed June 15, 1902, and is now owned by Mr. R. T. Mills, of Raleigh. Her dam was Egets F. B., and her sire Faithful Commons of England. She took first prize last year of sows one year old, and first prize this year as sow with finest litter of pigs. This hog has fine black hair, and a loose skin. She has a fine head with a good dished face. She stands well on her feet, and has legs well trimmed, and of a good shape. Her back and hips are especially good. Bessie Mason, Berkshire sow of Biltmore, exhibited by Mr. Whitaker, was very fine, but she was not exhibited for a prize. One imported Berkshire boar, Champion of Biltmore, exhibited by Mr. Whitaker, was very good, though his body was rather short and his back not straight enough. Four Berkshire shoats under one year old, two boars and two sows exhibited by Mr. Whitaker took first prize. One big English Berkshire boar known as Damsfield Jr., exhibited by C. F. Williams, Apex, N. C., took first prize as best Berkshire boar at fair, this being first time exhibited. This hog was two years old in September. His sire is Columbia, and his dam is R's Ideal V. He stands well on his feet and has a long, broad, straight back. He has fine hair and a well-developed head with ears standing straight up and nose short with a good crook. His hams are almost perfect, and his middlings are fine. This hog was the choice Berkshire on exhibition at the Fair.

SHEEP AT THE FAIR.

There were not so many sheep exhibited this year as last, but they were of as good quality. There was very little competition on this line. Only three breeds of any importance were exhibited, and these by Campbell & Son, of Wellington, Ohio. Those exhibited were the Southdown, Oxford and Merino. The Southdown is a native of England, coming from the old Waknham family. This is an ideal mutton sheep, quick maturing and well adapted to the South. The Oxford for wool and mutton is a very good one. They are the largest of the down. They average about two hundred pounds, and are heavy shearers. Among the sheep, our attention was closely

drawn to the last-named, the American Merino. This sheep came from the native sheep of Spain. They are noted for their large quantity of fine delaine wool. The mutton of this sheep is very good, but not so good as that of some the special mutton breeds. These sheep are heavily covered with a fine fleece, excepting on the ears, nose and feet, slightly dark on account of the wool being so oily and dusty. These sheep are of a good size and well proportioned. Their necks are well fitted to their bodies. They have a soft skin, a neat head with clear eyes and a white face. The ewes shear from seventeen to twenty-three pounds of wool and the rams from twenty to thirty pounds each. Of this bunch there were twenty-three. Four of the two-year-old ewes, last year sheared eighty-five and three quarter pounds of wool. These four took the first prize here last year, and the first this year. At the last New York State Fair eight of this herd in competition with three other herds, took six first, three second, two third prizes and two championships; and at our last Fair this herd took all the prizes given on sheep of this class.

We believe, from the number of animals exhibited and the interest taken in these by the people, that live stock raising will soon become a profitable and popular vocation to the farmers of our State.

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South Carolina Cotton Growers Organize.

The South Carolina cotton growers met in Columbia, S. C., October 26th, and organized by electing E. D. Smith, of Magnolia, President; B. Harris Pendleton, Vice-President, and John Cantey, of Kershaw, Secretary.

President N. C. Murry, of the Farmers' Educational and Co-operative Union of Texas, made an address. A proposition to change the object of organizing a Cotton Growers' Union to Mr. Murray's idea of secret union, was promptly voted down, and a committee of the following members, representing all sections of the State, were then appointed to write an address to the cotton growers of the State and prepare constitution and regulations governing the Union. Committee: P. L. Harden, Chester; R. A. Sublett, Clarendon; W. H. Irving, Greenville; John H. Wharton, Laurens; John Cantey, Kershaw; E. D. Smith, Lee; J. C. Stribling, Pickens; T. H. Rainsford, Edgefield; F. H. Weston, Richland; B. M. Pegues, Marlboro; J. W. Wylie, Lancaster; W. C. Brand, Colleton; H. A. Richardson, Barnwell; B. Harris, Anderson; J. W. S. King, Florence; B. W. Dobbs, Sumter; B. F. Killar, Orangeburg; H. R. Galloway, Marion; J. M. Edwards, Spartanburg; W. H. Stewart, York.

The prevailing sentiment was in favor of erecting bonded warehouses at all important shipping stations throughout the State, and to fix a standard price for cotton, and invite all cotton growers to join the Union, whether they were engaged in other pursuits or not.

Tobacco Warehouse Charges—The Other Side of the Question.

Reprinting the article by Mr. N. H. Fleming, of Greenville County, as it appeared in The Progressive Farmer two weeks ago, the Winston Tobacco Journal adds the following as to the other side of the tobacco warehouse question:

We find the above article in the last issue of The Progressive Farmer. Coming as it does from a gentleman of unusual intelligence, and who comes from a family of extensive tobacco raisers, the article is entitled to more than passing notice.

Mr. Fleming is taking up an old cry; one that has been sent out many times. The matter of warehouse charges has been brought before the State Legislature more than one time. It may be well to inform Mr. Fleming that, if we are not very much mistaken, there is already a law in existence regulating warehouse charges. The present charges are not excessive. In fact, according to the observations of the writer, who has had nearly thirty years' experience in the business, a warehouse cannot run on less charges than they are now making. If Mr. Fleming, who is a gentleman of intelligence, will go to any warehouse in the State, and look over the accounts of the receipts and the expenditures, he will no doubt be willing to acknowledge that warehouses are not gold mines. Mr. Fleming has seen many men in his life make fortunes out of merchandising, farming, manufacturing, etc. How many men has he known, who made a fortune in the warehouse business?

Some of the best business men we know are in the warehouse business, men of energy and push, who work hard all the time, and yet, in all of our experience, we do not know of a man who has made money out of the business. Some of those who are in the business are men of means, but they did not make it out of the warehouse.

If a farmer ever had a friend he is the warehouseman. Destroy his business and you remove a power that cannot be replaced. He stands in the position all the time to help the farmer. What ever the market is, high or low, the warehouseman sees to it that every pile must bring the market price. The warehouse system is a great thing for the farmer, and it will be a bad day for him when by legislation or combination the business is injured to the extent that the present system will pass away, or go into the hands of incompetent people. If Mr. Fleming desires to see in this matter justice done his friends, he will not jump at conclusions, but will make an investigation of facts, and if any warehouseman is violating the law, why, let his case be attended to.

President James H. Smith, of Robersonville Sub Alliance, Martin County, N. C., writes that his sub is on a boom and has nearly 100 members. "We have added to our lot and expect to build soon," he adds.